

## **BWA admits Vietnamese, Zambian, D.C. bodies, bids Coffey farewell**

**By Marv Knox** □ □ □ □

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The **United States Commission on International Religious Freedom** has recommended the State Department add Vietnam to its list of "countries of particular concern," an official designation for the world's most egregious violators of religious liberty.

The State Department gave that designation to Vietnam in 2004, citing restrictions of religious liberty and harassment and repression of religious believers, but lifted the designation in 2006, citing the country's passage of new religious-freedom legislation that outlawed forced renunciations of faith and permitted official recognitions of new denominations.